



## News



Meet Andrew Bossie  
34th Student Senate Chair  
page 3

## Arts



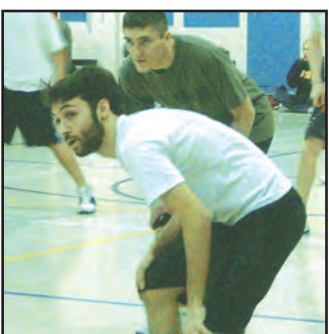
Martin King Luther Jr. Day  
commemorative event  
page 7

## Entertainment



Three guys in West Virginia  
page 8

## Sports



Serving questions to the  
Men's volleyball coach  
page 16

# Southern Maine Review seeks new funding

## Students work to bring back publication after funding cut

ANNE HOBBY  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

The Southern Maine Review, an academic journal affiliated with USM's Provost's Office, is seeking alternate funding after it was cut from the provost's budget this fall. Students who were involved in the editing and publication of the journal are heading a project called Operation Phoenix to resurrect the journal, hoping to start up again in the fall of 2006.

In the student centers of both campuses during the first week of school SMR staff collected over 500 signatures from both students and faculty to support putting a referendum on the spring ballot. The question asks students to vote on the following: "Are you willing to support the continuation of The Southern Maine Review by agreeing to a student activity fee increase of 15%, with the understanding that, beginning in Fall 2006 and continuing on a yearly basis, this percentage of the full Student Activity Fee will be allocated to the production and associated activities of The Southern Maine Review?"

The publication, previously known as The Maine Scholar, was funded by the Chancellor's office

and accepted submissions from any student or faculty member in the University of Maine System. In 2004, USM took over the journal and began funding it through the Provost's Office. This academic year a committee was formed to determine what USM needs in terms of academic publications, said Susan Campbell, associate vice president for academic affairs who worked with the provost and others to make their decision.

According to Campbell, several different groups and departments expressed interest in having their own publication or partaking in a University sponsored periodical. This interest instigated the idea to create a task force to review the system of academic journals and decide what publications USM "ought to be involved with."

The task force includes members of The Southern Maine Review staff as well as members of the Provost's Office.

"We are at a critical point where we need to look at, in a broad way, the investments that we make with regard to academic publications," said Campbell. "[The Southern Maine Review] is a wonderful journal," she said. "It's an expensive journal." She advocates collaboration between

departments and efficiency with any future publications.

Students and faculty involved in the editing and publishing of the journal feel there is a history and importance inherent in The Southern Maine Review. Combined with the years as The Maine Scholar, it has been in publication for 17 years, making it the oldest academic journal in Maine. According to Melissa St. Germain, the former student managing editor of the journal and a junior linguistics major, the journal's reputation helped draw students to USM.

Campbell contends that there could be better, more efficient ways of using publications in recruiting.

The circulation of The Southern Maine Review is "pretty low," according to St. Germain.

St. Germain, having been involved in The Southern Maine Review, believes in the value of the experience students get from editing and publishing the journal. She said it's the kind of hands-on training necessary to get a job in publishing.

"It is acknowledged that The Southern Maine Review is a quality publication and it is acknowledged that the involvement of students is critical," said Campbell. She said it's im-



portant for students to have a place to learn and be involved in publications like The Southern Maine Review.

Jeremiah Conway, associate professor of philosophy and former editor in chief of The Southern Maine Review, believes that one of the other benefits of the journal is its uniqueness in terms of publishing graduate, undergraduate and faculty pieces, both fiction and nonfiction. All the submissions are blind reviewed, which means that there is no distinction made between student and faculty work. The journal has also raised over \$9,000 for student writing prizes from anonymous donors.

Conway said he's guardedly optimistic about the referendum passing, but acknowledges it will be difficult to get students to vote for a fee increase. "At this point in time, asking people to increase another fee is a bit like asking people if they want a hole in their head. I realize the difficulty. It's hard times for people."

He also points out that the increase for full time students would amount to the cost of about two movie rentals and he believes that students, if informed, will be able to decide if it's worth it.

Initially, Conway accepted the provost's decision, but when the students came to him for support, he decided to help organize Operation Phoenix. "I don't want to see this thing die," said Conway.

If The Southern Maine Review gets student activity fee money, it will start up again in the fall of 2006 and release its next publication in the spring of 2007. ♦

# Noam Chomsky speaks at UNE

## Chomsky talks about US foreign policy and human rights issues

ALEX STEED  
DEPUTY ARTS EDITOR

Noam Chomsky gave the keynote address on Wednesday at the University of New England's annual Martin Luther King Jr. celebration, a several-week-long event including a read-in, documentary films about civil rights and a day of African drumming and dance with Kwabena Owusu & Crew.

Chomsky is institute professor emeritus of Linguistics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The New York Times has described him as "arguably the most important intellectual alive."

Despite his accomplishments in the field of linguistics, he is probably best known for his criticism of US Foreign Policy, a theme central to his speech, entitled "Universality of Human Rights: Moral and Legal Basis, Official Doctrine and the Case of Martin Luther King." Turnout was high for this event, being estimated at over a thousand people, necessitating the gymnasium be converted to a makeshift audience hall.

"It's hard to be optimistic," he said of the state of international affairs. Chomsky pointed to the work of Martin

Luther King Jr. and the civil rights revolution generation as the groundwork for an international human rights struggle. He said, however, that there still exists great inequality in our society and a disparity between United States rhetorical and actual support of a Universal Declaration of Human Rights. "The Formulation and the implementation are two different matters," he said.

Chomsky pointed to Reagan's United Nations Ambassador from the United States, Jeane Kirkpatrick, mocking description of the socioeconomic provisions of the Declaration as a "letter to Santa Claus."

"The poverty rate is 12 percent in this country and 30 percent in New Orleans. Median wages dropped



Noam Chomsky

PHOTOS COURTESY OF UNE

largely, and that does not include gains from stock—these numbers would only increase the inequalities. 38 million people can't afford to buy food in this country and [the admin-

see CHOMSKY, page 4





## False alarm at the Abromson Center

Friday afternoon at 12:30, two fire trucks and one rescue vehicle were seen pulling up to the Abromson Center on the Portland Campus. People were gathered outside, and a couple of them said they had been attending a mentor training conference when they heard the fire alarm go off. They were told to evacuate the building by a voice on “the lovely speaker system,” said one woman. A few minutes after the trucks arrived, Lt. Corey of the Portland Fire Department explained that it was a false alarm; somebody had reached for a light switch and pulled the fire alarm by mistake.

**JANUARY 11** – Someone reported the smell of marijuana on the 2nd floor of Upton Hastings Hall.

Someone reported the smell of marijuana on the 3rd floor of Anderson Hall.

**JANUARY 12** – Someone reported hearing a male subject talking about a sniper rifle.

*compiled by the staff of the Free Press  
and the USM Police Department*



## This Week in History

### February 4, 1974: Patricia Hearst kidnapped by SLA

Patricia Hearst, granddaughter of newspaper mogul William Randolph Hearst, was kidnapped at the age of 19 by a small, radical, leftist group known as the Symbionese Liberation Army (SLA). Her boyfriend, Stephen Weed, was with her at her apartment and was beaten by the three abductors. They originally wanted to trade Hearst for imprisoned SLA members but this plan failed, so they asked the Hearst family to donate millions of dollars worth of food to needy areas in California.

The family complied and expected Patricia to be returned to them unharmed, but in April a photo was taken of her holding an assault weapon during an SLA-led bank robbery. She claimed to be committed to the SLA cause. In September of the following year, she was arrested with some of the other SLA members for armed robbery. Despite previous statements of loyalty to the SLA, during her trial she claimed she was brainwashed by her kidnappers.

Despite this defense, she was convicted on March 20, 1976, and sentenced to seven years in prison. However, after less than two years of her sentence, President Carter commuted her sentence and in 2001 she was fully pardoned by President Clinton.

COMPILED BY ANNE HOBBY

# In Brief

## USM HOSTING ACADEMIC BILL OF RIGHTS PANEL

The Maine state legislature will be voting on the bill LD 1194 titled “An Act to Create an Academic Bill of Rights.” If passed this legislation would prohibit professors from discussing political and personal beliefs in the classroom.

The Academic Bill of Rights was conceived by Students for Academic Freedom (SAF), a conservative advocacy group founded by David Horowitz in 2001. Legislation to adopt the Academic Bill of Rights has been introduced in many of the states across the nation.

As part of creating an open debate, USM will be hosting a panel discussion, “Controversies in the Classroom: The Academic Bill of Rights, Advocacy Teaching, and Free Speech.” The event will take place Tuesday, January 31 at 7:30 in the Moot Courtroom of the Law Building on the Portland campus.

## STUDENT SENATE VOTE EXTEND POSITION OF STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

Following almost an hour and half of discussion about the position, the Student Senate voted to extend the position of Student Body President for another year with minimal changes. Had the proposal failed, the position would have ended due to a sunset clause in the original amendment. David Colson, chair of the Student Affairs Committee, was the only student to vote against the proposal.

The proposal is available through the Senate space on Blackboard.

## STUDENT SENATE FACES THE MUSIC AND PAYS THE DANCER

The 34th Student Senate approved payment for professional breakdancing services, four months late.

Due to human error, a purchase order was never written preventing Mike Gillespie from being paid.

During the “Vote Louder” campaign to increase voter turnout, the Gender Studies Student Organization hired Gillespie, a professional breakdancer, to come to the Portland campus and perform on October 25, 2005.

“I’m surprised that nobody on the BSO heard about this, that [Kathleen] Pease never heard about this” said Senator Caroline Young about the motion from the Executive Committee to pay Gillespie.

Senate Chair Andrew Bossie explained that any failure in communication was due to the expedited process after learning that Gillespie had not yet gotten reimbursed for his services.

## SHIFTS IN THE STUDENT SENATE

The last meeting of the 34th Student Senate saw the resignation of one student senator and the announcement of interest in an appointment by a student on campus. The Student Senate currently has four open seats.

Jaric Fontaine, secretary of the College Republicans, introduced himself from the gallery as being interested in joining the Student Senate. Fontaine left before the conclusion of the meeting, making him unavailable for questions.

Due to a scheduling, Senator Fred Fridman resigned from the 34th Student Senate. Senator David Colson will fill Fridman’s position as Student Affairs Committee chair.

“I’m saddened by Senator’s Fridman’s resignation,” said Senator Caroline Young. She then asked how Fridman’s position would be filled. The Senate voted to open the floor to nominations and to hold an election right then.

Young nominated Colson. “I’m on the Student Affairs Committee now,” said Colson. “I would also like to do some activities to get more students involved since we have had quite a turn over in the Student Senate.”

*Briefs compiled by the News Department of The Free Press*

# the free press

www.usmfreepress.org

92 BEDFORD STREET - PORTLAND, MAINE 04101

207 . 780 . 4084 - FREEPRESS@USM.MAINE.EDU

**EXECUTIVE EDITOR** JOSEPH R. THOMPSON  
**NEWS EDITOR** RICHARD SMART  
**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR** ANGELIQUE CARSON  
**SPORTS EDITOR** TODD HEBERT  
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**PRODUCTION MANAGER** JOHNICHOLAS HINES

**DEPUTY EDITORS** ALEX STEED  
**ASST. NEWS EDITOR** ANNE HOBBY  
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**STAFF WRITERS** JAMES ASHWORTH  
ANNE HOBBY  
JAMIE MCAVOY  
JAMES MONTGOMERY

**PHOTOGRAPHERS** JEN WILSON  
LIZ CARNES

**COLUMNISTS** DUDLEY GREELEY

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## Corrections for issue 11:

**Pg. 6: Josh Schlesinger is a chef at Sebago Brewing Company and has not been to Israel.**

## Editorial & Advertising Policy

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# Bossie on current student issues

RICHARD SMART

NEWS EDITOR

*Andrew Bossie, currently the chair of the 34th Student Senate, is finishing his third year as a senator. He initially came to USM as a theater major with the intention of transferring to a different school, but soon switched to being a political science major, with a minor in theater and business. Bossie's first experience of the political world was his work on the campaign for Question 6 in 2000. He was heavily involved in the No on 1 campaign and currently is attempting to tackle rising higher education costs in the state.*

*So what's going on with the Student Senate right now?*

There are a few things going on right now. We recently failed the Academic Bill of Rights, [but] there's a conversation going on to discuss the issue of discrimination based on creed.

Tuition is going up, that's always a concern; the affordability of education becoming more and more out of touch in more of the community. So there has been some work addressing that issue. Those are two really big things. Of course everyone's starting to ramp up for elections.

*What do you think of the Academic Bill of Rights?*

Obviously, most university campuses, especially state university campuses, are fairly liberal in ideology all around. As a

liberal student, I'm not necessarily aware of the discrimination, but I've been discriminated against on other fronts, so I can totally understand where these people are coming from. I think it's something we need to address and consider putting creed into the non-discrimination clause of the University System [policy]. I think the conversation is very important to have, about discrimination of any sort, especially in the collegiate setting.

*Given that, why did you guys vote down the bill?*

What I gathered as chair, and I can't speak on behalf of the Senate as far as their personal feelings individually, they weren't comfortable with the Academic Bill of Rights as it was written as a piece of literature from I believe the Students for Academic Freedom organization that David Horowitz has a lot of involvement with. They wanted to tailor it to a USM setting or a university of Maine setting and there was some contention of whether to amend it and pass it. Hopefully what will be coming forth from these panel discussions that we're having and will be something that's more tailored to Maine and USM.

*What's going on with tuition right now that you're trying to address?*

If you look to the recent past, you have the state legislature with a marginal increase of general funds for higher education; you've got the failure of question six on the

November ballot, which shows that there definitely needs to be work done to raise awareness of higher education. And to top all of that off you have the politicizing of the strategic plan and the failure of Strategic Directive Eight to be implemented [which proposed a merger USM and UMA and another between the campuses in Fort Kent, Presque Isle and Machias].

So, we can't save costs and nothing's been done to improve our financial situation. We've got a huge problem on our hands and if something's not done soon we've got a system that could go bust, or students that could go bust, and I think we're already seeing that.

*Do you think the campus mergers should have gone through?*

I think something needed to be done to save cost in the University System. I don't know if that was the answer, only because you're stretching resources even thinner than they were before, but I thought it was an interesting option to pursue.

The original number that I saw that was released by the system office way back when was about \$12 million in savings. \$12 million is a lot of money and could potentially have been brought back to the students.

*So what do you see as the solution to the tuition problem?*

There's never going to be a solution because its always going



PHOTO BY JEN FELDMAN

Andrew Bossie, currently chair of the 34th Student Senate

to be a matter of who's going to pay for education and I don't think we're going to reach, at least in the near future, ground where people are going to be satisfied with the current affordability of education or who's paying for education.

What we need to be focusing on is, if students can bring about an awareness across the state that education has doubled in the past 15 years—in some instances its been far less time than that—and show and prove to the people of Maine that higher education is [important] economically to the future of the state, and we

have this big discussion, then we'll be in a better place than we're in right now. But we're not discussing it.

*Do you see this discussion happening soon?*

I think it's not going to be long before students are going to be presented the opportunity to fight for their education, making it affordable and accessible, or to be apathetic and to let the opportunity pass them by. ♦

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SOUTHERN MAINE

### CHOMSKY, from page 1

istration] removes food stamps this year for 300,000 people," said Chomsky.

Chomsky spoke for over two hours and then answered questions from the audience for over forty minutes. He touched on the 2004 elections, media press coverage of the war in Iraq, the function of third political parties and corporate crime.

Of the 2004 elections, he outlined the candidates' use of public relations as a way of not providing information to the public. According to Chomsky, in 1992, 30 percent of voters knew where presidential candidates stood on issues. Now only 10 percent know. Six per-

cent of Bush's and 13 percent of Kerry's voters know where they stand on issues.

Chomsky also commented on media coverage of the war. "They're like a high school newspaper covering a football game, asking, 'How we doin?' Good game.' But this isn't how we ask questions of the other side. When the Russians invaded Afghanistan, that's not how we asked."

An audience member, citing the philosophies of Dinesh D'Souza, asked, "Why do blacks commit more crimes?" and "Why are blacks more violent?" Chomsky responded that once the casualties of corporate crime are taken into account, pharmaceutical and tobacco industries vie

for the lead, D'Souza's claims become false, given that these corporations are run largely by white men.

Despite the somber air of Chomsky's speech, he did say that public policy does not always reflect public opinion—despite a domestic and foreign policy on the decline, Americans "are generally good people." ♦

## Question of the Week

Photos and interviews by Liz Carnes

### What interesting thing did you learn this week?



Joey Turcotte  
Media Studies

I learned that IMAX videos use 70mm film, not 35mm film.



Erica Edgerly  
Communications

I learned through e-mail that my best friend has a secret boyfriend in another country.



Susan Sepples  
Associate Professor of Nursing

My brother told me that soap left on your dishes can cause GI distress.



Mimi Mills  
Undeclared

I learned that the University of New England might have better chairs in their lecture hall, but USM has better online materials.



Tom Flynn  
English

I learned that President Bush is even more full of shit than I thought.

Have a question you want answered? Send it to [freepress@usm.maine.edu](mailto:freepress@usm.maine.edu).

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-Tim Brent #8

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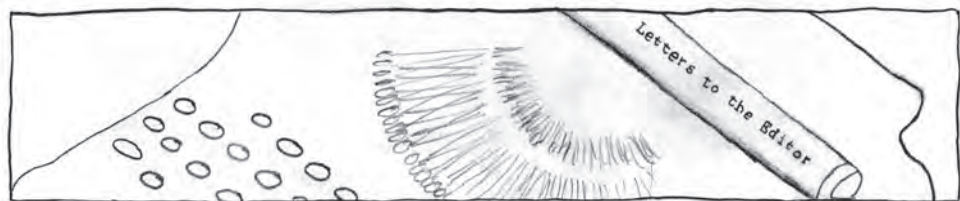
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### College Republicans Respond to vote on Academic Bill of Rights

The defeat of the Academic Bill of Rights resolution by the Student Senate is very disappointing. As students, all we were looking for was some balance in the classroom, if we can't get that then it's pretty sad. Anyways, as to what we are going to do, we are going to do our school a favor and increase the voter turnout for the spring.

We will be launching the largest campaign for the Academic Bill of Rights in the history of this University. We will be collecting signatures to force the Academic Bill of Rights to referen-

dum, so that students may decide its fate.

Even though we had 110 or so students support this, the Student Senate still ignored it. When the question passes as a ballot question then we will have achieved successes.

Thank you,

**Jason M. Lavoie**  
*Chairman*  
**USM College Republicans**

## Last Dandy on Earth

### Steed takes a 'pro' stance on funding the SMR

ALEX STEED

DEPUTY A&E EDITOR



One of the coolest things about having its own literary journal is that the journal's existence provides a way of saying to just about every-

one in the country who is worth a damn, "We're really fucking smart." The Southern Maine Review, formerly published as The Maine Scholar, has been rocking that mission and message for 17 years.

Responsible for seeking and publishing interesting and stellar work from all disciplines and artistic genres, particularly those of an interdisciplinary nature, the SMR throws the dynamic work of USM professors and students into the faces of intellectual communities all across the United States. Its efforts have a two-fold benefit for students not-directly-involved with the journal. First, the SMR betters USM's reputation as a community of thinkers and all-around smart people. As a result, when you apply for job X in state X in a year or so after you graduate they won't look at your resume and ask, "What the hell is the University of Southern Maine?" Second, on a similar level, if you plan on applying to graduate or law school, it helps to come from a college with a reputation for cranking out smarties.

Sounds too good to be true, doesn't it? For 17 years, the SMR, in both of its incarnations, provided the two aforementioned services to students by making USM look super smart across the land until...

[Insert music for dramatic effect here]

...the school administration cut funding for the review. Former SMR Editor-in-Chief Jeremiah Conway says that Provost Joseph Wood has been a big supporter of the SMR for as long as he can remember. The cuts aren't malicious or deceitful. The funds just aren't

there, they claim, and the first thing to go is one of the greatest perpetrators of our good reputation.

Thanks to Operation Phoenix, however, all hope is not lost. The group of former SMR workers and enthusiasts is working towards keeping the journal afloat. Two weeks ago, Phoenix set out to collect 200 student signatures in an attempt to lobby Student Senate to put a referendum on the student ballot that will keep the publication afloat. They came back with over 450. With those signatures, the only way that a referendum won't hit the ballot would be if the 2/3s of the Senate were to vote against it. As long as the Senate respects the wishes of the 450 students who signed petitions to see the resolution on the ballot, we'll see the question on this year's student ballot.

The referendum proposes a small increase in the student activity fee. If the referendum passes, the full-time student will face an activity fee increase of about seven dollars. While no one likes to pay more than they have to come to school, allow me to break it down like this, my friend. The increase goes for the mere cost of a sixer of PBR tallboys (I feel like this is a "Save the Children" advertisement). In exchange, the SMR stays afloat and USM continues to look good in the eyes of the national intellectual community. If the referendum fails, the full-timer is up 6 mediocre beers but USM's reputation of being the birthplace of poets, artists and all around cool people goes right out the window. It might sound dramatic, but consider applying for graduate school or a job and coming from a University with no academic reputation.

I am a huge fan and supporter the SMR and the function it serves for me as a University student. The fact that we have a seasoned academic journal puts us above and beyond a plentitude of other universities across the country. I support the movement of Operation Phoenix, and I appreciate the effort they're putting forward to save the journal. I encourage you to persuade the Senate to vote in favor of including Operation Phoenix's resolution on the ballot. We must defend the intellectual credibility of USM.

And when the time comes for us all to vote on the fate of SMR, I'll vote in favor of saving our academic reputation -- even if it means I go without 96 ounces of PBR for a night. ♦

## Letter from the Editor

### Making the world a bit better here at USM

JOSEPH R. THOMPSON

EXECUTIVE EDITOR



We've just finished up the second week of school, and I've learned a very important lesson: Nothing ruins a person's aesthetic appeal less than the

latest fashion combo of an iPod and a scowl. I have to wonder if everybody with an iPod is walking around forcing themselves to suffer through Wagner's entire ring cycle -- that would warrant more than a scowl.

Maybe the scowls come from listening to podcasts of the news. A brief look at recent headlines would include: veiled threats of nuclear strikes against terrorist states (a.k.a. nations with a different agenda than the west); mixed messages to love fellow members of our species but that we are at war and will kill our enemies; Iran threatens Israel; Israel threatens Iran; and so on. Great, now I'm scowling.

And then there's my personal belief for the dour expressions I've been seeing, not just on students but on faculty and staff as well. I think that we have forgotten what it means to be curious about those around us. Why? Well, if you listen to the rhetoric used by those in power, we are in the sixth year of a perpetual war: the War on Terror (how can there be an end to a war where an offered truce is summarily dismissed as a ploy?). And this state of war can't help but to build up levels of distrust and fear between various groups of people.

People begin to look at their neighbors differently, particularly if the neighbor is not white: "Why is my neighbor of (fill-in the blank) descent taking pictures of a particular tourist attraction? I should call Homeland Security just in case." And so we put on iPods and crank the Wagner, J5 or even Acta Non Verba and tune out the rest of the world. Of course, we don't feel any better, just safely isolated.

What ever happened to just saying "Hi" and inviting your neighbor over for coffee to get to know them? Is this the future? Is this how we are supposed to live from now on? I can't accept this sort of life. Please tell me that, as a diverse nation, we have not forgotten how to be curious without suspicion -- curious simply because we want to know, not because we're scared.

In 1927, Max Ehrmann of Terre Haute, Indiana wrote a little poem encapsulating some advice that is cross-culturally relevant, even here and now. Here's the opening stanza:

Go placidly amid the noise and haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible without surrender be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even the dull and ignorant, they too have their story.

It probably sounds familiar. The Desiderata was a rallying point for San Francisco's flower-children. The words in it are very beautiful, but the lessons are just as hard now as they were in the 60s, if not harder.

This week, I want to challenge every student body, faculty and staff member: Turn down the iPod, lose the distrust and get rid of the scowl. Once you have that done, turn around and smile at a complete stranger. Listen to what they have to say.

Sure, this may be a simplistic and Pollyanna-like approach to solving the world's problems, but last time I checked, it worked better than the TIPPS program. And, if you have a better idea, send it in. ♦

## Better Choices



### How to avoid genetically modified food

JACOB CHAMBERLAIN

GUEST COLUMNIST

Ramen noodles, cold pizza and Hot Pockets seem to be my most common meals these days. The lifestyle of a struggling and stressed-out college student doesn't encourage healthy eating. In spite of the hurdles, I recently decided to treat myself to a wholesome and hearty home-cooked meal. I went all out. First, I had a large salad including the most delicious red tomatoes I have ever tasted. Next came buttered squash and creamy mashed potatoes that sat high on the side of my plate. Corn on the cob, my favorite vegetable, completed the feast. I felt good

about myself. "I can do this more often," I thought as I scraped my plate clean. After a short period of congratulatory self reflection, I washed up and headed off to join friends. I was sure they would be excited to hear of my newfound healthy-food lifestyle. Tired from the long cold walk, I sat down, stripped off my excess layers, and prepared for a night of light-hearted banter. Then suddenly, "BAM!" A heavy book dropped on the coffee table and knocked me out of a temperature-induced daze. In front of me sat what would soon change my feel-good attitude of the evening. "Fatal Harvest: the Tragedy of Industrial Agriculture" read the bold text embedded in the dark cover of a thick book. Something about the loud thud it made after being tossed on the table, and the book's sheer size and presence suggested that I should respectfully pick this book up and glance through its stiff, glossy pages.

As I began to take in the subject matter, I broke into a cold sweat. My heart sank as my eyes moved across the pages. The bold print read, "The U.S. government requires no mandatory safety testing or labeling of genetically engineered foods. As a result, millions of consumers have become unknowing

see CHOICES page 6



# MEET JOE STUDENT

NAME: GARRETT CORBIN

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SCHOOL OF LAW

HOMETOWN: BANGOR, ME

AGE: 23

*What's on your iPod?*

I don't have an iPod.

*What's up with that?*

I'm trying to think of a really good pun that includes Steve Jobs. Apple left a lot of people out to dry when they issued so many iPods with faulty batteries. Their standards should be higher.

*What pushes your buttons?*

People who don't take 10 seconds to go to thehungersite.com when they're online. President Bush snubbing Helen Thomas (Thomas – now a columnist – worked as the UPI White House reporter for 57 years). White chocolate. I mean, it's good, but is it really chocolate?

*Are you involved in any student organizations?*

Yes – I am a member of the Environmental Law Society, the Student Bar Association, and I'm active in efforts to promote youth civic engagement. Along those lines, anyone thinking about grad school may

want to check out an afternoon conference that the student bodies of the Law School and Muskie School of Public Service are co-hosting in late march (exact date tba). It's going to be a kind of “by-students, for-students” open discussion.

*Can people contact you about the conference?*

Sure, email me at garret.corbin@maine.edu.

*Now is the part of the interview I call “Hearts and Darts.” Who are you throwing hearts at this week?*

Props to Jon Stewart and best wishes to Sharon. Also the Java City house blend on campus is Fair Trade; good brew, good karma. Portland is really lucky to have the Space Gallery and so many dope breakfast spots too. Hearts to Zippy the librarian, to the Portland Museum of Art for being free for USM students, and to people who ride their bikes to school. And hearts to Saul Williams – the guy's a



Corbin (right), tree (left).

PHOTO AND INTERVIEW BY JEN FELDMAN

spoken word genius, and he's opening for Nine Inch Nails in Portland next month.

*And darts?*

The lady who kicked me out of the library for drinking coffee.

*Any parting words?*

Is The Free Press printed on recycled paper?

## CHOICES, from page 5

guinea pigs, testing the safety of these novel foods.” To back up a bit genetic engineering in agriculture is a process that alters the genetic makeup of plants and animals to change their properties. For instance, a genetically modified type of corn is the offspring of researchers who, with the help of a bacterium, inserted a gene that signals the corn plant to produce an insecticide in its leaves, stems, roots and the corn kernels themselves. While the seed might cost more, pesticide applications and costs might drop.

Today, biotechnology companies are permitted to introduce genetically-engineered products to industrial farmers before comprehensive health and environmental safety testing is carried out. Our government and the FDA have failed to place strict restrictions on genetically engineered organisms used in our food supply. They have also refused to mandate the labeling of such products. Unless specifically labeled as having no genetically-modified content, the food we buy could be genetically altered, and we would have no idea. Over 70 million acres of farmland in our country have been planted with genetically modified crops. What results is a seemingly abundant supply of delicious, gigantic red tomatoes for us to include in our salads, when those tomatoes may not be safe or even nutritious for us to eat. All of the facts are certainly not in.

Needless to say, after learning this, my sorry stomach didn't quite want to keep in all of that “delicious produce” it had just been filled with. I excused myself from the room - never to return to the party again. There is, however, an upside to this. We don't have to be guinea pigs. We can choose to support farming practices that don't use bioengineering. USDA certified organic produce “is produced without using most conventional pesticides; fertilizers made with synthetic ingredients or sewage sludge; bioengineering; or ionizing radiation”. Until genetically engineered foods are more thoroughly tested and labeled, I plan to eat more organic and truly nutritious food. USM could help by requesting that the University's food service provider offer more organic food selections. I heard that Aramark served organic carrots last semester. Keep up the good work! Editors note: The World Health Organization notes on its website that “There is a need to facilitate the establishment of sound safety and risk assessment frameworks for foods derived from modern biotechnology.”

◆

## A student's take on Avian flu

Meghan Jackson,  
psychology major,  
outlines her study on  
Avian flu and offers  
suggestions on how to  
deal with it.

MEGHAN JACKSON

GUEST COLUMNIST

After reading numerous online responses to articles on Avian Influenza, I realized that too many people had misinformation about what the Avian Influenza really is. Too many people said that it was propaganda or some scheme to distract the public from the war in Iraq, or a way to increase Bush's approval ratings. This is not about a war being fought, or who the president is, but a legitimate health threat; a biological flu that is threatening the world's population. People need to be aware of what is expected to be a reality. My attempt is to reveal the truths behind the Avian Influenza because the ability to make educated decisions will protect the future health of the world.

The World Health Organization is predicting that a novel strain of influenza will spark a global pandemic. When it will occur, no one can be sure, but they do know that we are overdue for another one (Eggerston, 2005). The Spanish flu of 1918 caused between 20 and 50 million deaths worldwide and approximately half were between the ages of 20 and 40 (Gostin, 2004). The flu targeted the most economically and reproductively productive people in society, leaving the world's economy as fragile as its future. Sadly, if we aren't prepared the same thing could happen again. A flu pandemic could cause 20 percent of the world's population to fall ill, with as many as eight

million deaths worldwide. The economic impact could reach into the hundreds of millions of dollars, and possibly more if a full-blown pandemic breaks out. Through preparation the world could spend only a fraction of the cost and protect millions of people (Fouchier, Kurken, Rimmelzwan and Osterhaus, 2005).

There are many steps that can be taken by global and local authorities to prepare for a flu pandemic. Vaccinations are our number one line of defense against influenza. Investing in the development of new vaccines could be the most effective plan, especially “mock” or “seed” vaccines that can be mass produced and tailored to the specific flu strain once it emerges. Antiviral drugs that alleviate the symptoms and reduce infections also need to be stockpiled. They are the next best step to treating the influenza and protecting those at high risk for contracting the flu. Antibiotics to treat secondary infections that attack weak immune systems should also be in supply. We need to be ready to handle the thousands of people that will flock to hospitals for help. More beds in hospitals and alternative places, like community centers, need to be prepared in case they are necessary to house sick patients (Eggerston, 2005). Promoting sanitary behaviors, like hand washing and ventilation, will also decrease the likelihood of contracting the influenza. Most importantly we need to keep surveillance over bird populations, so as soon as a strain of flu is present, the birds can be quarantined and either killed or treated (Gostin, 2004). Knowing when and where an outbreak has occurred is the best way to stop it from spreading and causing a global pandemic.

The only way to protect ourselves is through preparation. The only way to be prepared is by having drug companies mass produce necessary vaccines, antibiotics and antiviral medications. Most companies are unwilling to invest the necessary funds, because they are only guaranteed a return if a pandemic actually occurs. We need to let the companies know that saving human lives is more important than saving profit margins. By writing to your congressional members and telling them that Avian Influenza is important to you, it will be pushed to the forefront. Please make your opinion heard and help increase Maine and America's preparation for Avian Influenza. Your state, country and world will reap the immeasurable benefits of being ready for the next inevitable influenza outbreak. ◆



# Arts and Entertainment

## USM has a dream

ANGELIQUE CARSON

A &amp; E EDITOR

The 7th floor of Glickman Library was bustling and buzzing on Tuesday night. Not only were there free chicken fingers, coffee and a plethora of cheeses, there was a sea of chairs overflowing with constituents of USM's community. Entire classes, concerned community members, professors and staff sat facing a large screen hanging next to a panel of distinguished guests in celebration of Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Jr. Luckily, the University Events Room is capable of hosting such an attended event. The recent addition to our library is decent in size and features a stellar panoramic view of downtown Portland's skyline. The sun may have been setting, melting into the ocean behind the Time and Temperature Building but an uprising was underway. The community of USM was prepared to rally.

As chicken fingers were inhaled and coffee cups re-filled, USM's President Richard L. Pattenauode got things started with some opening remarks about the event and its significance. The tone was positive and hopeful, proud of our accomplishments but aware that the battle for civil rights is perpetual. Pleased with the number of bodies attending, Pattenauode



noted that not only is it important for us to honor people like Martin Luther King Jr. and Parks who



From left - Wells Stanley Mays of NAACP Portland, Wendy Chapkis, Women's Studies program, Rebecca Hershey, School of Law Black Law Student Association, Maureen Elgersman Lee, college of Arts and Sciences History Department.

bravely pioneered the movement, but that we recognize that the struggle for individual rights is far from over.

"I have faith in America," said Pattenauode. "But unless we continue to get together to think and talk about these issues, we will continue to backslide, and we do not want to backslide. This University commits to diversity and justice."

The commemorative event followed the country's celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and provided the community with an opportunity to view an important documentary, "Awakenings," which originally aired as a segment on the PBS series "Eyes on the Prize." The film focuses on the years 1954-1956 and navigates through the lives of not only Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks but also Emmitt Till. Till was a young black man living in Montgomery,

Alabama who was brutally beaten, mutilated and shot in the head by two white men (neither were ever convicted) for talking to a white woman in a convenience store. At his widely attended and publicized funeral, Till's mother decided to leave the casket open. She reasoned that this was so "All the world can see," she said, "what they did to my boy." The images of young Till's destroyed and mutilated face were disturbing, and many audience members gasped and wiped tears from their eyes.

The film describes Montgomery, Alabama in 1955 as "the cradle of the confederacy" and a completely segregated community. The KKK was a ubiquitous symbol of intimidation and southern Blacks

see MLK page 15

## Watching your mug

### Gritty McDuff's exclusive beer 'Mug Club' thrives

LAUREN SMITH

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

How many times have you stumbled into Gritty McDuff's on Portland's Fore Street and found yourself staring wistfully at the wall of mugs hanging from the ceiling? Have you ever wondered why they must dangle tantalizingly from their hooks like they were up for grabs, but nobody ever offered you one? It turns out, you can't have one. Only members of "the Mug Club" can swill beer from the seemingly bottomless pit of a Gritty's mug, and you aren't part of the club.

For those of you who are not familiar, Gritty's is a laid-back, popular drinking hole that offers not only a full menu, but also features a micro-brewery downstairs that produces five original Gritty's Ales on-site in addition to numerous seasonal ales. Their brews are so popular, even the mugs they come in have a club.

The Mug Club started in 1988 when the Portland Gritty's first opened. It allows members to have a personalized mug hanging from the ceiling waiting for them, fresh and clean every time they come in for a few relaxing social drinks. For a fifty dollar annual fee, a member will receive a mug with their membership number scrawled across the bottom as well as twenty dollars credited annually to their membership card. You can also personalize your mug with paint, stickers, or anything you'd like. The best part about being a club member, though, may be getting more beer for your buck. Every Tuesday from 4 to 8 p.m. and all day Sundays, Mug Club members can fill their mug for a dollar. Also, anytime a Mug Club

member comes in they can fill their very own 20 oz. mug for the price of the regular 16 oz. glass.

"What we figured out," said Donna Browne, Mug Club member since 1995, "is I get all my money back by about the end of January if I drink enough. So it really is a good deal." Browne also says that they've never raised beer prices for Mug Club members. "It's been a dollar for a mug of beer since they opened here."

What are the downfalls to the Mug Club? For one, you'll probably have to like beer, or it could be a waste of your money. Also, because they are hung on hooks from the ceiling, the bartender has to hook the handle of the mug onto a long rod and pull it down to retrieve it. Accidents are inevitable and mugs occasionally break.

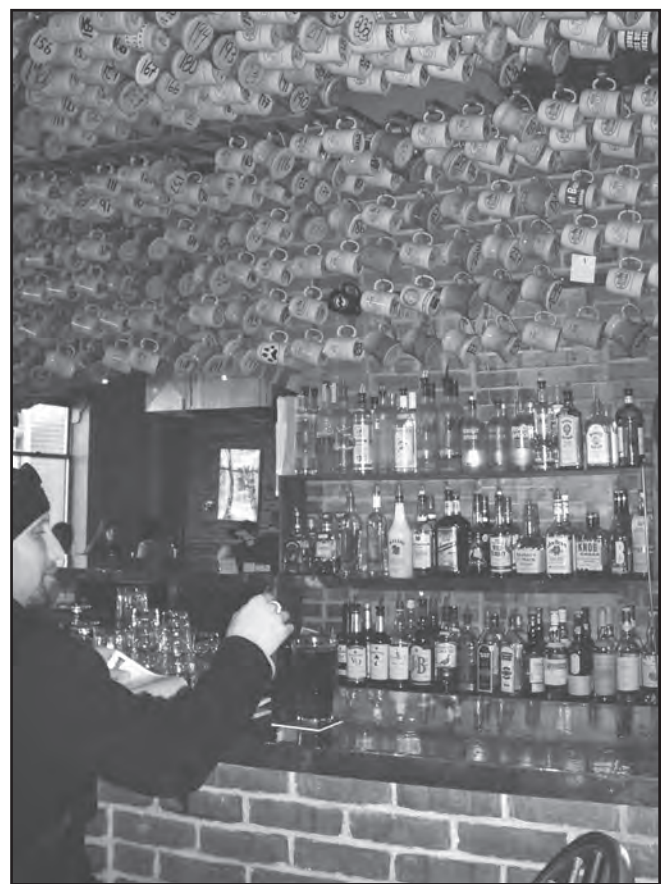
"It's happened here plenty of times," laughs Jason Stevens, a bartender at Gritty's for the past six years. "But we have more in stock so [the members] get over it—after a couple of beers."

The fact is, the Mug Club is really more about the beer than what the beer is served in, and the club wouldn't be nearly as popular if the mug was the only benefit.

Browne even admits, "I didn't want to get in the club in the 80s because I didn't like drinking out of a mug." However, like many others before her and many still to come, Browne was finally overcome by the benefits and joined.

The Mug Club has grown so much in popularity that it has even expanded to the chain's locations in Lewiston and more recently Freeport. When the Freeport bar opened the Mug Club for sale, membership sold out within two weeks.

Joining the club can be difficult because of its immense increase in popularity. Besides the membership fee and a short application, you'll need a lot of patience. There is currently a waiting list, which Stevens estimated to be about 60 or 70 people. All members are in the club for one year from the time they join, and current members get priority in renewing their

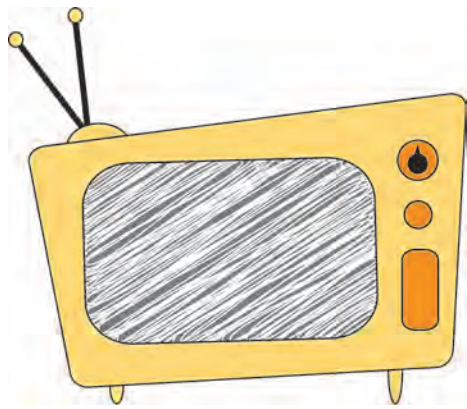


A non-Mug Club member sitting under club mugs

membership before new members are let in. The people on the waiting list are permitted to join only if a space becomes available and the wait can be upwards of a year.

The Mug Club can't be the only good thing about Gritty McDuff's, because any given night glasses, not mugs, of beer still abound. It's a perk but as the experienced Gritty's veteran Jason knows "[The Mug Club] is not what makes it popular; it's the beer, it's the people." ♦





## Media Whore

ALEX STEED

DEPUTY A & E EDITOR

Hello gang! This week is something special. I'm a' whorin' art walks, campy horror movies, indie-rock gods and a whole lot of punk Here is a list of the four best places to put your money and time this week in the realm of Portland arts and entertainment.

### First Friday Art Walk with Phantom Buffalo and Crank Sturgeon ([www.firstfridayartwalk.com](http://www.firstfridayartwalk.com)):

Stop me if you've heard this one... Of Portland, Boston rock band The Gulf said that we have "a nightlife and arts scene comparable to Boston's. The arts scene is friendly and supportive, not bitchy and cutthroat."

Even cooler is that on the first Friday of every month, you can be a part of that scene when local art galleries, art studies and alternative art venues open their doors from 5-8 pm. It's free and you get to check out art (and be seen checking out art, you fucking hipster). First Friday (which falls on February 3) is a good place to meet disaffected art kids and see radical local and national art on a student's budget. Be sure to check out SPACE Gallery where frail and pale indie-rock superheroes Phantom Buffalo will be playing with local oddity Crank Sturgeon. For more information on the event, check out [www.space538.org](http://www.space538.org)

### The Best Hamburger(s) in town:

For high-end, go to the Blue Spoon on the top on Munjoy Hill. While all of their other fancy stuff is worth whatever they're charging for it, you can get a marvelously tasty, lean burger and a pile of giant steak fries for 8 dollars. With Papst and Stella, not to mention an extensive wine list available, you can make your dinner all about crass or class, based on your tastes. Further, the service at the Spoon is always to die for- always. For low-end, check out Collucci's about a block before you get to the Blue Spoon if your driving towards the water on Congress Street. At "The Cootch," as it's called, you can get a hamburger basket for five and a half dollars. You get fries (or onion rings for an added cost) and two amazing, giant, heart attack patties. If I had to guess, I'd say the meal weighs seventy-five pounds total, and the basket is worth every iota of agony you'll feel after taking it all in.

### "When a Stranger Calls":

Despite its title sounding like a Hemmingway title, this movie promises to be a good, middle school, horror-movie style piece of crap that I can't wait to see. High School student Jill Johnson (played by 20-year-old Camilla Belle) plays a babysitter who gets a call from inside the house. Sure, we've seen the premise in the 1979 original of the same title, not to mention the 2001 David Fincher (Fight Club) thriller "Panic Room." There'll be thrilling music that will inform me of when to worry. There will be screaming that will inform me of when to be startled. There will be bad, one-liners to ease the tension. There will be the fact that a 20-year-old is playing a high school student to ease my feeling guilty for being attractive to an under-aged baby sitter. Ladies and gentlemen of the academy, give this film an Oscar since you forgot to last time! "A Stranger Calls" opens at select theaters this Friday.

### Jordan's 50th Birthday Bash with Big Meat Hammer:

This is also going down on First Friday, but there's no doubt that it'll be rocking on long after all of the other art-walkers are fast asleep. Grab a PBR, a Bud in the bottle or a shot of something — anything -- in preparation for one of the most exciting celebrations in Portland punk rock history. Big Meat Hammer is pretty much the be-all, end-all as far as punk rock in the town goes. They've been around forever, they'll be around forever and on Friday night, you can party with them to celebrate Jordan Kratz's 50 years as the front man of Portland's punk icons.

JOSH SCHLESINGER

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

*Part 2 of Drive Fast, Take Chances, the chronicle of three college guys traveling across America*

Friday, December 30, 2005. We left my brother's house in D.C. at about 11 a.m. and started heading west. We did this ridiculous twisty, turny route so that we could drive through Kentucky before we hit Tennessee because J-man thought that there really was Kentucky bluegrass; as in grass that is really blue. You know what? Maybe there is bluegrass, and, if we were a smarter group of travelers, we would have planned the trip a little better and driven through Kentucky during the daylight hours in search of this oddly colored Kentuckian flora.

Okay, wait, I'm getting ahead of myself. I haven't even told you about West Virginia yet. Towns with names like Oceana, Bald Knob, and Red Jacket guided us all the way into Kentucky. However, while cruising around the "Mountain State," we found ourselves amongst these geographical formations that are the basis for West Virginia's nickname; yeah I'm talking about mountains.

On this particular day in this particular part of the country, these mountains emanated a mysticism that we couldn't quite put our fingers on. The snow covered trees blended into the grey sky making it unable to tell where the trees ended and the sky began. But the absent-bodied, yet still rocking West Virginian rocking chairs seemed to say to us "speed the fuck up unless you want to engage in a Deliverance moment." Therefore, we pushed along, stopping only once for pictures at a scenic moment.

One hour later, after the sun had set, we entered Kentucky near the town of Pikesville. We weren't going to see any bluegrass, so we decided to get out of Kentucky as fast as possible, but we needed to eat first. This dining experience would be our first excuse to indulge in a little diner chain called Huddle Houses.

Generally attached to a gas station, Huddle Houses are a place to kick up your feet and really soak up some local culture. In this particular Huddle



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JOSH SCHLESINGER

The guys in the snow capped mountains of West Virginia House, we learned from the bath-

room wall of Stacy, who would drop to her knees if you pulled up to the restaurant and blinked your headlights twice (that was putting it lightly). There were also men who whistled with every S that traveled through their huge mustaches, not to mention a barrage of mullets. Maybe that was the reason that Shultz couldn't keep his shit together and laughed until I had to leave the restaurant because I felt too awkward around him.

Once we departed the infamous Huddle House, we made our way through Kentucky, including Hazzard County (as in Dukes of Hazzard). Both J-man and Shultz will forever give me hell about not stopping, but I needed to escape Kentucky. We hit I-75 and went south to Tennessee. It was then around 10 p.m., and we were watching what would be the last rainfall until we arrived back in Boston, two weeks later.

Off of I-75 we took I-40 west to Knoxville, TN, where we ended up sleeping. One important thing we learned on this trip: travel coupons save lives. Upon entering each state, there are generally "welcome centers" that provide these coupons that allow customers to get hotel rooms for just over \$30. We got a great room at a Ramada and let the book close on Knoxville. The next day was New Year's, Memphis, and plenty of inebriated tomfoolery. ♦



Why West Virginia is nicknamed the Mountain State



## Reviewing Chicky's Fine Diner



PHOTOS BY JEN FELDMAN

ALEX STEED

DEPUTY A &amp; E EDITOR

Initially I was excited to go to Chicky's Fine Diner. When I was regularly working at WMPG, I came to look forward to the restaurant's donation of food at the Begathon (WMPG's semiannual fundraising event). The veggie lasagna they provided was quite tasty and of epic proportions. This experience coupled with the fine dining experiences my friends have had there have led me to get a little overzealous.

Chicky's Diner is on Bridge St. in Westbrook. The unfortunate thing about this for students living in Portland is that you have to drive, hung over, all the way to Westbrook in order to grab brunch. The cool thing about this is that everyone loves a diner. It reminds us of memories of pre-civil rights peace and quiet, communist scares, Fonzie, John Travolta and Olivia Newton John, and in Chicky's case, rockabilly culture.

To a friend who had never been there, I insisted, "You are going to love Chicky's!" I told him this numerous times on our way there. It's hard to say at what point during the Sunday brunch I should have eaten my words.

After being greeted by a nice enough young man and served beverages, we waited for about 10 minutes for a waitress to take our order. The waitress certainly was nice enough, though nice doesn't necessarily mean that when three of the six of us ordered sides, any of us would get them. Nice means that she smiled enough and was considerate enough, even though little to no effort was made to maintain communication with us during our 30 to 35 minute wait for our food or, in the same vein, why other tables (I emphasize the plural) who were seated after us were served long before.

Of the food, it was decent, and that's as far as it merits comment. For 10 dollars, I got a small, blasé pile of eggs, a couple of warm, tiny tortillas and a bland side of refried beans (though not the extra side I ordered). While the plate was a platter, the beans were in their own dish and the portions seemed impressive—this lasted for only a moment. At closer examination, one realizes that these platters and dishes are nothing but props used to create the appearance of a serving of food with portions so substantial that the only pieces of dinnerware accommodating enough would be—you guessed it—a platter and a dish. Spread thin, the servings would not even cover the surface of a normal dinner plate.

Upon entry, we stared up at the dessert menu, laughably titled "sugar." Super excited for any one of the mouth-watering treats we were going to get, this was the focus of our conversation for most of the time we waited for service beyond getting our coffees warmed up. By the time we waited, waited again and then sat, growing increasingly disappointed, we gave up on dessert. Not only did the kitschy, nostalgic feelings of eating at a diner fail to keep us satisfied despite our sub-par over-all experience, the promise of putting good, bad-for-us things in our stomachs did as well. It turns out I wasn't hung over or stoned enough to insert any degree of optimistic value into an all-out mediocre experience.

The only thing that made eating at Chicky's more tolerable than sitting at home drinking a beer and eating Honey Nut Cheerios out of the box was the live music provided by Zach Ovington. Initially irate that the house band replaced Johnny Cash on the radio halfway through a song, Ovington's swinging, rockabilly soon proved worthy of its imposition. Catch Ovington as soon as you can; I would suggest somewhere other than at Chicky's brunch—if you get the chance. ♦

## Word Up Y'all

### Text messages: Satan's newest toys

ANGELIQUE CARSON

A &amp; E EDITOR

What the hell is the deal with text messaging?

My parents still try and tell me how much easier I have it than them. And I agree. Economically, educationally and financially I most definitely experience privileges that they could have only dreamed of. But I'll tell you what my friends, our parents never had to deal with the complications involved with 24/7 communication. Once our parents said goodnight to their dates – that was it. Text messages have made dating a round-the-clock experience. Back in the day, it wasn't even an option to drunk dial someone. What were you going to do, call their house, wake their mom and dad and ask them to put "Billy" on the phone? No. Our parents never had to deal with the agonizing moments that accompany the dawn of a hangover, "ohmahgawd, what did I say?" Now, with cell phones and text messages, just flip open your phone and have a red-faced read.

The benefits of modern technology are plentiful. The Internet is sweet. Who could argue with the sharing of information and communication from all over the world at our fingertips?

The strides in technology that we've grown up amidst have been remarkable. The text message is just too deliciously dangerous to allow people to purchase as a cell phone feature without some type of pre-purchase discussion of the pros and cons. I think that selling the text message feature should include some type of a background check, like buying rifles. Maybe an application question could say, "Ever drunk dialed a crush and made a complete ass of yourself?" If the answer is yes, then you certainly aren't ready for the text message feature. Texts messaging makes people just as accessible as cell phones do, but without the "in-person" accountability.

As a concept, I can appreciate how convenient it is. I'm generally comfortable with the idea that in an urgent situation I could send a text message to a friend. Perhaps the bus is running late and I need to tell a friend, "Head into the bar, I'll meet you there."

Text messages even saved me from a possible catastrophe last winter during a trek from Gorham to our Portland campus when my car decided to deviate from the road and burrow its grill into a massive snow bank. In Gorham I'm generally lucky if I get radio reception, let alone my cell phone. Incapable of making a frantic phone call, "Save me I've been accosted by a snow bank," I text my roommate. Five minutes later I was en route to class once again. Wait, wasn't I trying to be pro-text messages? My bad.

Sure, it kind of saved my life in the snow bank thing, and yes it's great to have as a more discreet form of communication than a phone call. I don't want to be a Negative Nelly, but for the love of God, this concept has to have been the devil's work.

"But I love my text messages," you say. "Billy always texts me 'I luv u.' He's so sweet."

I'm psyched for the two of you love birds, I really am. But this capability is a double edged sword.

Many, like myself, should not be trusted with a cell phone after a maximum of four beers. There's a jamming room with booze, sweet tunes, a decent crowd and twenty minutes later you're sending the first installment in a downward spiraled saga of text messages.

I roll over at nine in the morning. At least I think it's nine in the morning, but I can't tell because I'm still half-drunk and my eyes will only half-open. I made it home alive, I still have all my clothes on, and apparently I kept track of my cell phone all night. I was just getting ready to declare (in a whisper, cause my head hurts) victory, when I remember the acid test. I may have just had a completely successful night, (gulp), or did I get text happy again?

In most cases, the effects are harmless. "I miss you!" to an out-of-state friend, or "Call me later!" to my roommate. Why not? There's nothing wrong with wanting to send out a simple, sentimental shout-out without the salutations and formalities involved in phone calls.

Two beers later, and things start to feel awesome. The perma-smile creeps across my pink, flushed cheeks and fingers have assumed their positions, like soldiers ready for battle perched atop the overworked keys of my cell. "Maybe I'll just text him," I reason, "real quick."

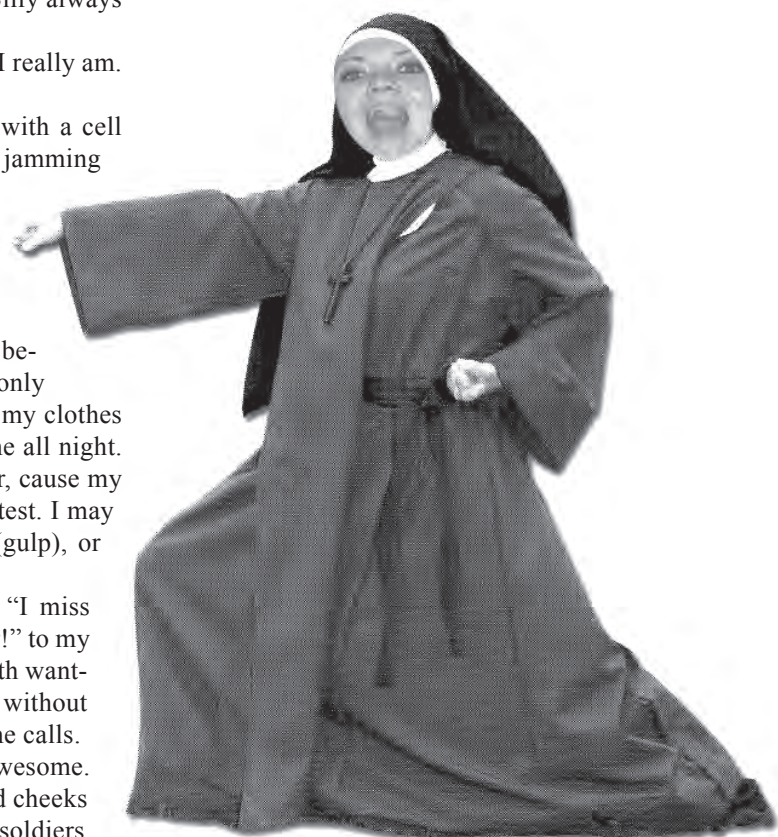
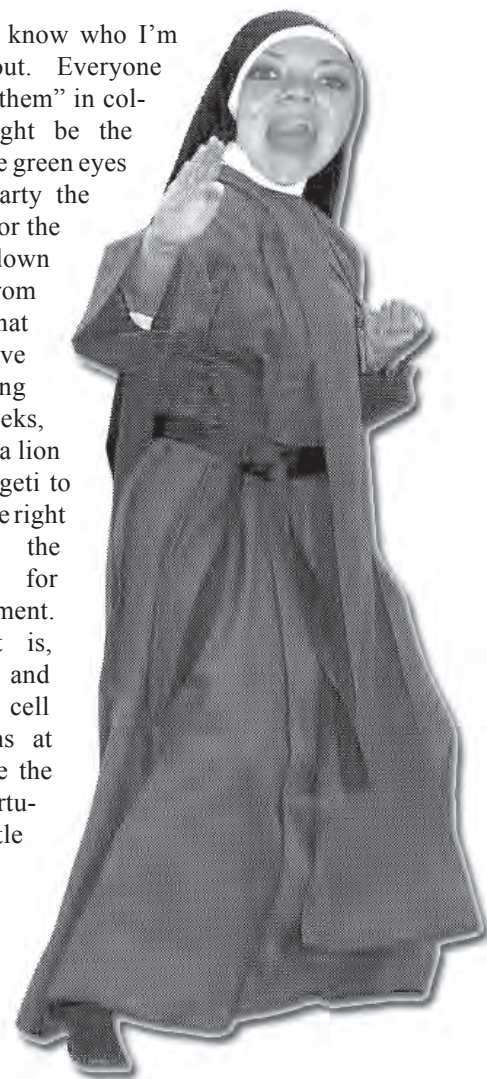
You all know who I'm talking about. Everyone has one of "them" in college. It might be the dude with the green eyes from that party the other night, or the girl living down the hall from you. It's that person you've been flirting with for weeks, waiting like a lion in the Serengeti to pounce on the right opportunity, the opportunity for a sexy moment. Whoever it is, being drunk and owning a cell phone seems at the time like the perfect opportunity for a little flirtation. This way, there are no awkward pauses or the pressures involved in witty on-the-spot answers. Its casual, and the best part of all, you can hide behind your cell phone.

On this morning, I'm fighting the blinding sunlight bombarding through my bedroom window, I bravely eye the "sent" box of my text messages. It's silent in my bedroom except for the pounding of my heart and the ferocious growls my empty stomach has been roaring all morning.

"Call me later," says Billy.

"Don't worry, I will" it appears I had written. Crap. I've admitted the attraction. Last night, a complete failure on my part, I lost that round. Then again, Billy texted me back at 3 a.m. saying "Come over."

On the one hand, sweet, I have documentation to verify how much of an ass I made of myself. On the other hand, crap, I have documentation to verify how much of an ass I made of myself. Sometimes, I think I would just rather not know. Is around-the-clock accessibility a good thing? Or should some moments be just yours, and nobody else's? ♦





**S**tudent  
**I**nvolvement  
Support  
Services

## Student Organization Winter Showcase

*Get involved in student organizations at USM!*

**Thursday, February 2nd  
8-10pm  
Brooks Student Center  
Gorham Campus**

**Tuesday, February 7th  
11:30-2pm  
Woodbury Campus Center  
Portland Campus**

*Student organization reps will showcase what their  
groups are all about.*

*Pick up info about getting involved.*

*Door prizes!!!*

FMI or to sign up contact the  
Student Involvement Center at 780-4090



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I WONDER WHERE THE  
THINKING MATTERS  
WEBSITE IS.

I WONDER  
WHEN IT'S  
GOING TO  
SNOW AGAIN

I WONDER IF I CAN SUBMIT  
MY THINKING MATTERS  
ABSTRACT ONLINE.

YA KNOW, THINKINGMATTERS IS ON  
APRIL 21ST THIS YEAR

YEAH, AND THE  
ABSTRACT  
DEADLINE IS  
MARCH 3RD.



[RESEARCH.USM.MAINE.EDU/THINKINGMATTERS](http://RESEARCH.USM.MAINE.EDU/THINKINGMATTERS)



Sudoku

Put one digit in every small square.  
Every row, column and thick-bordered square contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats.

				9	6			
			1			8		5
1		2	8	7				
5		6			8			9
	1	3				6	5	
2			5			3		8
				2	9	5		3
7		5			3			
			7	5				

Slither Link

Draw line segments between dots.  
The line segments form one loop with no branches or crossings.  
The numbers indicate how many line segments are around that square.  
Any number of line segments can be around a blank square.

.	.	3	2	3	.	2	2	.	.	.
.	.	.	1	3	.	2	.	2	2	.
.	.	.	1	2	.	3	.	.	.	.
2	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	3	.
.	.	.	.	1	.	3	2	.	2	.
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.	2	2	0	2	.	.	.	.	3	.
1	2	.	.	.	.	2	.	2	.	.
.	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	3	.	.
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1	2	.	2	1	.	.	.	2	.	.
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3	3	2	2	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
2	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
.	2	.	.	.	2	.	3	.	.	.
3	.	3	3	3	2	.	.	.	.	.

Erich Friedman’s Square Puzzle

Fill in some of the squares.  
The numbers indicate how many filled-in squares there are in each row and column.  
The filled-in squares occur in square blocks (1x1, 2x2, or 3x3).  
No two filled-in blocks are adjacent horizontally, vertically, or diagonally.

										2
										2
										2
										2
										3
										2
										2
										5
										3
										4
4	5	4	4	0	0	0	4	3	3	

Crypto-quote of the Week

TH FRP YGCPXOPCQ\_WJKD KPCP JAAWTPE, FRPY  
PIPCM AZDF-KJC JXPCTSJY  
ACPDTEPYF KZGWE RJIP OPPY RJYQPE.  
– YZJX SRZXDVM

Hint: A = P

Research Opportunity

Participants needed for research on why men refuse to go to marital &/or family counseling. If you have refused to go to counseling with your partner, you may qualify to be interviewed. Interviews are confidential, you will be paid for your participation, and you can **choose the place where you will be interviewed**. If interested, call Rod Nadeau at 207-829-2187 or e-mail him at: [Men@maine.rr.com](mailto:Men@maine.rr.com). This research is being conducted as part of a dissertation project at the University of Connecticut.



**NEED MONEY?**  
Apply for a USM Scholarship

USM’s Scholarships & Awards program recognizes outstanding achievements both inside and outside the classroom.

**Deadline: February 24, 2006**

Applications available in Career Services, Financial Aid, Campus Centers, Libraries & Dean’s offices.



Ask Jen



because you need help.

Jen “Too Sexy for Times Roman” F.

Will you marry me? It sounds backwards; get married, then get to know each other. But hey, it might work after all! Cheers!

- Jeff  
Dear Suitor,  
It’s a cross between an arranged marriage and extreme blind dating. Think tradition meets modernity. Hot, right? Right. I need some time to consider your tempting offer, but in the interim, you can facilitate the process by sending cash.

I got a call the other night from a self-absorbed woman I know (and can’t stand), saying she’s been back in Maine for about a month. She probably wants to borrow money or ask me to babysit her kid or expects me to be her therapist. She called again tonight, but I’ve been screening my calls and did not pick up. So here’s my question: Do I call her back and tell her that I just can’t continue this friendship or whatever the hell it is or do I just never call her back and keep screening calls until I move out of the state? Or should I just be pleasant and meet her for like 15 minutes?

Signed,  
Desperate and depraved  
Double D, remind me never to be your friend. I mean, if you won’t give me money when I ask for some, what’s the point? And if you can’t handle the fact that I talk only about myself and never let you get a word in edgewise, or if you get all bent out of shape because I only call you when I want something, forget about it. You obviously don’t know what it means to be a good friend.

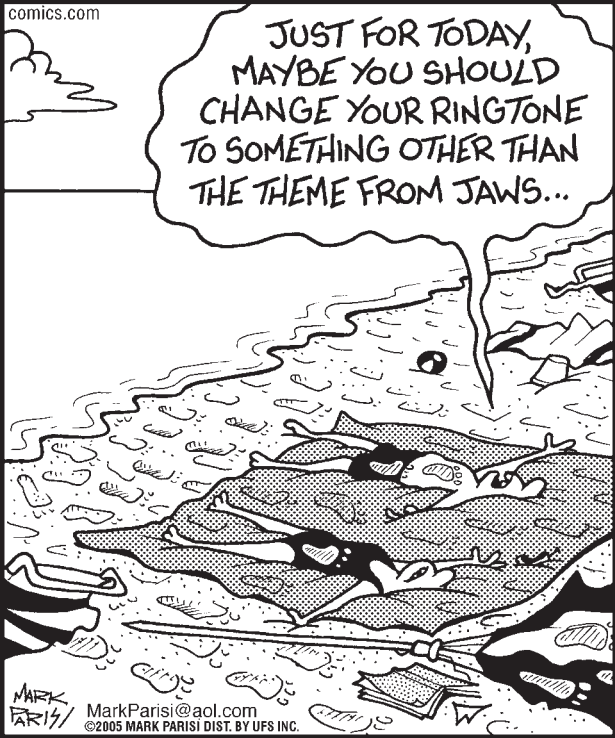
My girlfriend and I just broke up; we were together for 1 year. We never had sex, which I was totally fine with since I’m a virgin and I don’t know what I’m missing. Anyway, ever since we broke up I’ve been craving porn like never before and I just want to get all my sexual frustration out in one messy night. What do you recommend I do?

Love,  
19 and Itching for Sex.

Itchy,  
First, I suggest you get naked and rub calamine lotion all over your body. If that doesn’t ease the itch, I suggest you start worrying. Then take that worry to the computer and start reading up on rare itching diseases until you’re so freaked out you can hardly breathe.

Now let’s address your sexual frustration. The way I see it, you have three options:  
Option 1: Stop fooling yourself. You say you don’t know what you’re missing, but I’ll fill you in on a little secret: sex sucks.  
Option 2: Go to your neighborhood adult novelty shop and load up on supplies. Then go home, lock the door, and enjoy your new wares until the sun comes up. By five a.m. you’ll be so sexually un-frustrated, you’ll swear off sex entirely.  
Option 3: Are you familiar with the Cougar movement? If not, get familiar. And fast. Then ask your mom if she has any single friends. A Cougar is sexy, confident and experienced. Her diet consists of cigarettes, Cosmos and boytoys. You’ll often find one drinking alone at the bar of a high-end restaurant. Get a job at said restaurant. Or start dining there. Or, like I originally suggested, ask your mom if she has any single friends.

Need help? Of course you do. (Man, are you lucky I’m here.) Send problems, marriage proposals, and hate mail to ask.jen@gmail.com



GIRLS AND SPORTS



DISASSEMBLANCE

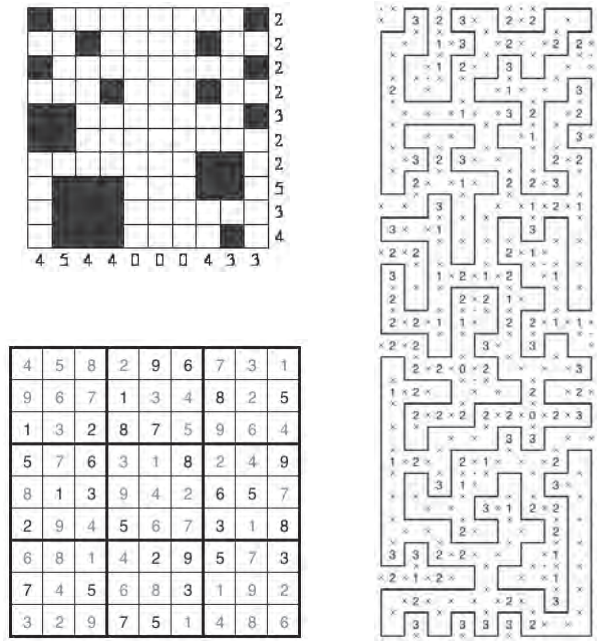


Cards and Stars Horoscopes  
By Lemma Luciferous

Rather than just looking at the sky for some insight into your week, I, Lemma Luciferous, perform a single card tarot reading each week to see what challenges and blessings are approaching you during your journey through life.

**ARIES** (The World)★★★★★: You’re usually too busy playing around to stop and think about this stuff, Aries, but have you ever considered becoming a sensualist? Unlike a hedonist, a sensualist realizes some pleasure in moderation – like drinking enough to get a buzz but not a hangover. The world will open up to you this week and as you taste every pleasure it offers you, be careful of glutting yourself.  
**TAURUS** (The Lovers)★★★★★: No, Taurus, this is not the ‘get lucky’ card. Rather, the Major Arcana card Lovers corresponds to the dualist sign Gemini. It indicates a spiritual union of the sexes, the culmination of the human experience, Nirvana. Of course, one benefit of this experience is that you begin to exude confidence, the natural pheromone. Meaning: you may just get luckier this week.  
**GEMINI** (8 of Cups)★★★★: Feeling a bit overwhelmed? Good news, Gemini. This card represents the one good thing to come out of Pandora’s box. This is also the one thing that, as far as we know, is totally unique to the human experience: hope. Things will work out well.  
**CANCER** (Judgement)★★: The time of truth is at hand, Cancer. If the “star” card represents the awareness of choices that comes from walking on a path, then this card is what happens when we hit a t-intersection. The plutonian influences of this card represent your subconscious manipulating of the world to get to where you are now. And now is the time to choose. Pick left or right. Yes or no. Just do it this week.  
**LEO** (Queen of Swords)★★★★: How odd, Leos aren’t usually nervous about something – unless it’s something that might gain you positive recognition. This queen is the card of liberal education and social activism. Get to know your humanities. Go save the world this week. We already know you can’t take a compliment, so we’ll just smile and say “thanks” in our minds.

Solutions to puzzles



- ☾ retrograde, inverse
- ★★★★★ On top of your game
- ★★★★ Things are going well
- ★★★ Average week
- ★★ You have some work to do
- ★ Time to reevaluate your game

**VIRGO** (7 of Rods)★★★★★: Feeling a bit adult-ish this week, Virgo? This is the card of responsibility. It looks like you’ve found a student who looks up to you, most likely a Libra. You’ll make a great mentor; just don’t be scared to apprentice him or her out to a Taurus or Aries to learn about the beauty of art and culture.  
**LIBRA** (Page of Swords)★★★: A study card, Libra. Have you found your teacher yet? This is the week when you let go of all preconceived notions of knowledge and bow before the twin alters of Science and Art. Look for a Libra or Leo to help guide you along.  
**SCORPIO** (King of Rods)★★★★: You, like your counterpart Taurus, are having a “zen-moment.” This king focuses on wisdom and self-control. It refrains from throwing an impulsive punch when angry; rather, it spends time and reflects before acting. Focus on stopping for a second this week, Scorpio, and you will find yourself conquering others in those games you so love to play  
**SAGITTARIUS** (6 of Pentacles)★★★★: This is when you learn what money can do. Remember those time you were broke in the past? What did you learn then, Sagittarius? Build off this knowledge and watch your wealth grow.  
**CAPRICORN** (2 of Swords)★★: Like Cancer is doing now, you once found yourself at a crossroads in your life, Capricorn. You chose and now is the time to see what the outcome is. Good or bad, it’s justice.  
**AQUARIUS** (5 of Rods)★★★★: Does the word dissipation mean much to you, Aquarius; because it will this week. What has been building up in your life? Is it something you want to hold on to, or to let go of? If you do nothing, expect it to melt away like yesterday’s dreams.  
**PISCES** (9 of Swords)★★: If you feel a bit low this week, Pisces, it’s because there are memories of your past that need you to spend time with them. Loved ones and days gone by are what make us and from time to time we need to sit in silence and feel them again. This week a calling for you to set aside time to do just that.



# Classified Listings

## HELP WANTED

### The Free Press Needs You!

The Free Press is currently looking for talented, quirky misanthropes who have a burning desire to take pictures, draw illustrations or write articles. If this is you, send an email to [freepress@usm.maine.edu](mailto:freepress@usm.maine.edu) or drop by 92 Bedford Street.

### Want to get back into the game?

Come check out the Free Press Sports Writer position. Some journalism experience a plus, but not needed. For more information or to apply send your questions or resume to [freepress@usm.maine.edu](mailto:freepress@usm.maine.edu).

### Get the picture?

Come apply for a Free Press Photographer position. Some photography experience a plus, but not needed. For more information or to apply send your questions or resume to [freepress@usm.maine.edu](mailto:freepress@usm.maine.edu).

## STUDENT GROUPS

### ARE YOU A STUDENT W/ CONCERNS

(tuition, food, etc.)? Voice those concerns in the lobby of Luther Bonney, November 17th, 8-5pm with your student senators.

### Free and Open to All Paths!

The Pagan Student Association will hold meetings on Mondays, 5:30-7. Boiler Room Woodbury Campus Center. Curious? Stop by say hi. FMI email [usm\\_psa@yahoo.com](mailto:usm_psa@yahoo.com)

### AAAS Tea Party Fundraiser

Is everyone ready for our famous Tea Parties/Fundraisers again? Eggrolls, jasmine tea, and banana bread, rice, Asian meatballs and more are on the way! Tues, Jan 31 at 10am-3pm in Luther Bonney. FMI email [aaasympoosium@yahoo.com](mailto:aaasympoosium@yahoo.com)

### Interested in Linguistics!?

Join The Linguistics Fellowship  
Tuesdays @ 10:15am in Campus Center B  
Oooh, sassy!

### Come get pi (both kinds)!

Math Club seeks interested members (Talent optional) show up Thurs. @ 4pm in the student center "boiler room."

## APARTMENTS/MISC.

**Newly remodeled East End Bungalow** –North St. Cherry cabinets,new appliances. Wide pumpkin pine floors. Yard for BBQing. Garden. Parking. Park across the street. Perfect for couple. Heat included! Great Landlord. Pet's interviewed. Ready Nov.19th 207 773-2790

**Newly Remodeled** – Large 3 bedroom Apt. Windham - easy commute to USM Gorham/Portland campuses. All new throughout. \$100 month winter heat rebate! \$ 950 plus. 772-5114 or [cvickerson@maine.rr.com](mailto:cvickerson@maine.rr.com)

### New Students: Walk to School in Gorham

Nice, clean, furnished rooms. Shared Kitchen and baths. Call 839-5466. Ask for Debe or Peter

### Get rid of those old Magic cards

Do you have Magic the Gathering Cards kicking around that you never play with anymore? I'm just getting into them and will pay cash for your collection. Email: [j7731376@gmail.com](mailto:j7731376@gmail.com)

## CLASSIFIEDS NOW FREE!

Classified ads up to four (4) lines are free of charge.

Classified ads must be submitted with contact name and phone number by 5 p.m. Thursday before publication.

Ads phoned in will not be accepted.

Email ads to [fpads@usm.maine.edu](mailto:fpads@usm.maine.edu) or fax them to 780.4085

We cannot print your ad without the following information:

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## DEMOSTHENES' CORNER

USM has a variety of illustrious speakers and events here every week. Here is a sample of some of them. This list is not all-inclusive and the number of listings is contingent on space. If you, your student group, club, et cetera, would like to place a listing, send an email to [freepress@usm.maine.edu](mailto:freepress@usm.maine.edu) with the word "Demosthenes" in the subject line.

### Upcoming Events

#### Monday, January 31

"Controviesies in the Classroom: The Academic Bill of Rights, Advocacy Teaching and Free Speech," a panel discussion with professors from various departments and disciplines.

The event will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Moot Court Room, School of Law on the Portland campus. 780-4289.

#### Wednesday, February 1

The University Neighborhood Organization (UNO) will be hosting a two-part forum concerning Portland's Peninsula Traffic Plan. The event will take place from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in Luther Bonney Auditorium on the Portland campus. The second part will take place Wednesday, February 8 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. also in USM's Luther Bonney Auditorium. 772-3243.

Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, the Women's Resource Center and the Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity are cosponsoring the Say It Out Loud program

for high-school aged girls to express themselves using hip-hop, spoken word and poetry. The event will take place at 7 p.m. on the 7th floor of the Glickman Library on the Portland Campus. 780-4289.

#### Friday, February 3

A gathering will be held to commemorate the life of Mert Nickerson, who died January 12, 2006. People are encouraged to attend and share support and memories. The gathering will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. in the Woodbury Campus Center on the Portland campus. The USM Computing Offices, HelpDesk and LogicShop will be closed during this gathering.

#### Thursday, February 9

The World Affairs Council of Maine is hosting "Mainers Serve and Return from Iraq," a Q&A with servicemen from the National Guard who have returned from overseas. The event will take place from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in room 160 of the USM Lewiston/Auburn campus. Free and open to the public. 780-4552.

ACSUM is sponsoring the "Have a Heart" food drive that will run until February 10th. Proceeds will be donated to the Preble Street Resource Center and the Animal Refuge League. To find out how to make a donation or to help call Tammy Berry at 780-4805.

## USM SCHOLARSHIPS

*Apply Today!*

The Scholarships & Awards program recognizes outstanding achievements both inside and outside the classroom.

**Deadline: February 24, 2006**

Applications available in Career Services, Financial Aid, Campus Centers, Libraries & Dean's offices.



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- \* Visit **Downtown Portland**, the **Old Port**, **Casco Bay Ferry**, **Hannaford**, **Shaw's**, **Portland Public Market** and 800 other bus stops in **Portland**, **Westbrook**, the **Maine Mall & Falmouth**

\* Special USM bus fare only open to students, faculty, staff and employees showing a valid USM ID Card.




**METRO**

For more information — [www.gpmetrobus.com](http://www.gpmetrobus.com) or call **774-0351** or  
Visit Student Involvement Center at Woodbury Campus Center, Portland Campus



# HUSKY HERO

HUSKY HERO



Center • Men's Ice Hockey

Mark Carragher

HUSKY HERO		MARK CARRAGHER	USM
<b>RECENT HIGHLIGHTS:</b>  Team leader in goals scored and total points; scored a hat trick on January 20 vs. UMass Boston.	<b>FAVORITE THING ABOUT USM ATHLETICS:</b>  Playing a very competitive hockey schedule.	<b>PRE-GAME RITUALS:</b>  Always tapping my stick a certain way; going on to the ice in a certain order; going for a run/stretch before each game.	
<b>INTERESTS OUTSIDE OF SPORTS:</b>  • Golfing • Traveling • Music	<b>MOST CHALLENGING THING ABOUT BEING A STUDENT-ATHLETE:</b>  Trying to keep up with all the things that go along with being a student while practicing and preparing yourself every day for your sport.	<b>TO WHOM I GIVE SPECIAL THANKS:</b>  My parents for everything they have done for me and all their support and my teammates.	
<b>STATS:</b> 11 GOALS • 11 ASSISTS • 14 PENALTY MINUTES <b>MAJOR:</b> BUSINESS <b>YEAR:</b> JUNIOR			

PHOTO AND INTERVIEW BY TODD HEBERT

## MLK, from page 7

were the victims of discrimination and violence on a constant basis. The film reports, in one year, there were more than 500 lynchings in Mississippi alone. The documentary then shifted from the story of Till to the story of Martin Luther King Jr. and his rise to leadership. The scenes of Martin Luther King Jr. speaking to crowds of battered but determined southern Blacks were powerful and stirring, and the energy of the room went from astonished and uncomfortable to riveted and excited. The film started to touch on the life of Rosa Parks and her monumental contribution to the civil rights movement, but time got tight and the film was cut short to allow for a panel discussion, followed by a dialogue between the community and the panel. The film was ended at a moment when audience members and panelists alike were on the edge of their seats. They seemed to have been reminded of the multitude of possibilities resulting from non-violent dialogue and passionate leaders.

Many of the comments from the audience were centered around the on-going battle for individual rights, and one student expressed concerns with the ability to fight oppression and discrimination in a capitalist economy that is oppressive and exploitative in nature. Panelists seemed to empathize with their concerns. However, panelists brought to light that you don't have to be Rosa Parks to make a splash, or make a change.

"Ordinary people," said Wendy Chapkis, associate professor of sociology in Women's Studies, "do heroic acts every day."

Keita Whitten, program coordinator of Multi-Cultural Student Affairs, said that one of the goals that the MCSA has for these film forums is the realization that we don't have to pay copious amounts of money and bring in outside speakers to be inspired or mobilized. Whitten, who organized the event, says that instead of looking for these icons, we can look at the people sitting right next to us; faculty, students and staff (including the four panelists) who are making

strides every day to exterminate oppression all over the world.

"I'm hoping that through the multi-cultural film forums," Whitten said, "we can provide a safe space for people to get along, to get together and to openly talk about issues like institutional racism and leave P.C. at the door. The more we continue, the more we realize that we are the same people, and we really want the same goals."

How does the social climate at USM stack up in terms of being the type of environment that the MCSA would like to see? Whitten said she has always seen ups and downs, and there are always peaks, highs and lows. As of right now, she feels there are still students on campus who feel like it's not okay to be bi-sexual, or gay or different. Students of color still hear racist comments, and sometimes they will come to her office and say "Why are white people so ignorant?" There is hope though, according to Whitten, a positive change is always feasible. "In the end, it's the social constructs of race, gender and class that make us all polarized," she says. "It's these social constructs that continue to keep us enslaved. But we can emancipate ourselves. The more you do this work, the more the institutional racism will start to deteriorate and be shown for what it is. That's what I'm hopeful for, that's what I bring to the work, and that's what I believe." ♦

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## HUSKY SPORTS SCHEDULE

2/1	<b>Wrestling Trinity &amp; Coast Guard</b>
	@ Trinity 5:00 PM
2/1	<b>Men's Basketball</b>
	@ St. Joseph's 7:30 PM
2/3	<b>Women's Indoor Track State Championships</b>
	@ Bates 6:00 PM
2/3	<b>Men's Ice Hockey</b>
	@Castleton State 7:00 PM
2/4	<b>Women's Basketball</b>
	@Western Connecticut 1:00 PM
2/4	<b>Men's Basketball</b>
	@Western Connecticut 3:00 PM
2/4	<b>Women's Ice Hockey</b>
	@ St. Michael's 3:00 PM
2/4	<b>Men's Ice Hockey</b>
	@Skidmore 4:00 PM
2/4	<b>Men's Indoor Track State Championships</b>
	@USM 6:00 PM
2/5	<b>Wrestling Roger Williams &amp; R.I. College</b>
	@ Roger Williams 1:00 PM
2/5	<b>Women's Ice Hockey</b>
	@ Castleton State 2:00 PM



# Men's volleyball with Braden Zamore

ASHLEY ST. MICHEL

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Before 2003, the only fall sports noise coming from the University of Southern Maine gym was from the spikes, aces, blocks and serves coming from the USM women's volleyball team. That was before USM met Keene, New Hampshire native Braden Zamore.

Zamore is a Communication major hoping to become a sports radio journalist. In his spare time, he is also known as Coach Zamore to the Gorham High School girls' volleyball team.

When Zamore started attending USM, he was under the impression that he would be playing volleyball on a team that the University's Recreational Sports director told him existed. As Zamore quickly found out, there wasn't a men's volleyball team, let alone a club for him to join. "I got here and there wasn't a team...I'm not doing this, I'm playing volleyball," Zamore said. So he started building from the volleyball court, up.

A freshman at the University of Southern Maine, Zamore already had over four years of volleyball experience behind him. "I started playing the summer before my freshman year of high school in some beach and grass tournaments," Zamore stated.

His experience of the game helped him when he started posting flyers and holding practices for a new student directed club. In his first year, Zamore posted signs around the Gorham campus, sporting sayings like, "Have nothing to do?" "Want to have some fun?" and "Interested in men's



Men's volleyball team at practice

Volleyball?" He held his practices in the Costello Sports Complex, recruiting some of the varsity women's volleyball players to assist him in coaching. By the end of the year, USM Men's Volleyball was a recognized club at the University.

The club is part of the New England Collegiate Volleyball League, a league with over 42 teams. Currently, the USM volleyball club is part of a ten-team division, allowing them to play real games or scrimmages with ten other teams around New England.

Their season, which runs from the beginning of October to the end of April, hosts both regular season games and four different tournaments. The first set of tournaments falls in February and the second set falls in April. This second tournament, if won by the USM Men's Volleyball club, would allow them to play in the championship, where they would face other teams on a national level.

Zamore says his love for the sport comes from "building a team." "In order for you to be successful, you have to rely on your team; you can't win alone," Zamore said. According to Zamore, this season has been his club's best season. "We have had more participation than ever. They live and they breathe volleyball," Zamore said.

Although they have had a significant increase in participation, Zamore said he is still looking for more students to join the club. The students can still play three sports a year, and his club is allowed to have two female players on the team. "The only restriction is any female USM Varsity Volleyball players. We aren't allowed to accept them," Zamore said.

Zamore cautioned students about his club. "We have a fun time, but I teach real volleyball. This is the real thing." Zamore also said to "make sure you want

to play and you have the time commitment. You learn a really, really fun sport." Practices are held three days a week for two hours in the Costello Sports Complex. ♦



PHOTOS BY TODD HEBERT

## Husky Highlights

### Women's basketball player reaches milestone

Junior forward Ashley Marble (Topsfield) netted her 1,000th career point last Tuesday night in a 95-43 win over the Umass Boston Beacons. She achieved the milestone early in the first half of the game when she connected on a free throw. Marble is the 17th player in the team's history and the second this season to reach that milestone. Earlier in the season, senior forward Megan Myles (Auburn) reached 1,000 career points.

### Marble is on a roll

Ashley Marble was named Little East Conference Player of the Week for the week of January 16-22. This is the third time this season and second consecutive week that Marble has received the award. During the week, Marble averaged 18.5 points and 10.5 rebounds per game in two wins.

### Huskies dominate Panthers

Center Mark Carragher (Charlottetown, PEI) scored a goal and assisted on two others as the men's hockey team defeated the Plymouth State Panthers 5-1 last Tuesday. James LeBlanc (Dorval, Quebec) and Josh Giordani (Quincy, Mass) chipped in with a goal and an assist each.

### Men's basketball team runs out of gas in overtime

The Umass Boston Beacons overtook the men's basketball team in overtime last week in an LEC match up. Trailing 80-77 with only nine seconds to play, Southern Maine guard Walter Philips (Portland) drained a 3-pointer to tie the score and force overtime.

### Runner breaks record

Sara Marzouk (Wilder, Vt) broke a school record in the 3000 meters to help the women's indoor track & field team take third place at the United States Coast Guard Academy Indoor Invitational. Marzouk finished the race with a time of 10:29.67, which was over 19 seconds better than her previous best time.

### Bears wrestles win away form Huskies

The wrestling team lost to the Bridgewater State College Bears 20-16 in a Pilgrim Wrestling League match last Wednesday night. After leading 16-4, Southern Maine dropped their final five bouts to lose the lead.

## USM cheerleaders salvage the season

### University hires Cassandra Maegan as new coach

TODD HEBERT

SPORTS EDITOR

Late last semester the cheerleaders at USM didn't know if they were going to have a season. Cheering coach Kate Loveless had left the job earlier in the year and the position had yet to be filled. Without a coach, and already a month late starting the season, the cheerleaders were demanding answers from the athletic department. They got their answer. Cassandra Maegan, a USM sophomore and fellow cheerleader, was hired to fill the coaching vacancy.

"There was no way I was going to let the cheering team go down without a fight," said Maegan, "even if it meant I had to go out for the position as coach myself."

Maegan says the team is at least two months behind schedule, but they are doing well making up for lost time. They spent the first week of practice getting a tape together to qualify for the NCAA College Nationals. They managed to get the tape together and send it out just in time to meet the deadline. Last week the team found out that they qualified for the Nationals, which will take place in Daytona Beach, Florida in early April. The competition will be televised on ESPN.

"We were worried about qualifying this year because we had no time to practice anything for the tape," said Maegan. "We literally started taping the third day of practice which is just crazy! But obviously we pulled it off."

Maegan is NCA (National Cheerleading Association) certified and has been coaching the eighth grade cheering team at St. James School in Biddeford since she was a freshman in high school. She said the St. James team has improved tremendously since she has been coaching. She has the same plan for the USM team. Maegan is also a hip-hop instructor at the Sharon Lux School of Dance in Kennebunk.

Athletic Director Al Bean and the rest of the athletic department were struggling to fill the position when Maegan applied. They had placed several ads but had received little interest. Bean said that hiring a student to coach her peers "isn't normally the way you would want to go, but certainly people can do it. Given our choices, it was worth giving her an opportunity [to coach]."

Bean was impressed by Maegan's coaching experience, her energy, her enthusiasm and the respect that she has gained from her peers.

The athletic department had received some criticism for waiting so long to find a replacement for former coach Loveless. In a December 5, 2005 Free Press article, IFC (Interfraternity Council) President Gabriel Markey was quoted as saying: "From my understanding, the athletic department has done a poor job finding a coach." Bean said it was very unfortunate that the article came out in the way that it did.

Maegan doesn't blame the athletic department. "Honestly, the athletic department did what they could," Maegan explained. "They advertised for a while and received zero responses. There

was really nothing more they could do."

She went on to say that "the athletic department was just as upset about not having a coach as all the cheerleaders were."

Being the coach as well as a team member, Maegan is obviously in a unique situation. Regardless of her age, Maegan says that all of the cheerleaders are very accepting of the fact that she will be their coach. "I feel I have the personality needed to pull this together successfully," she says.

At the first team meeting, Maegan made it clear that, although she is the coach, the whole team will have equal say. They work together as a team in deciding the dance moves, the stunts they perform, and the tumbling techniques they use.

"Not only do we have a team now, but we have an *amazing* team, an impressive routine, and more talent than what the university has seen for a few years," Maegan affirmed.

The team has adopted a few slogans, Maegan said, that sum up their spirit and pride: "We Run This!" and "Our style can't be duplicated or recycled!" ♦